a either broadside. The Roard reserves the arrangeand character of the battery for future considera tion the weight of ordnance not to exceed 170 tons. An wance of 28 tons should be made from the weight of

ance for machine guns, torpedoes and electric gear. Me opinion of the Board, wood casing and metal the board recommends that they be not fitted. The bow shealthing are neither necessary nor desirable, and hence the Board recommends that they be not fitted. The bow should be of a modified ram shape and, while not in-tended to develop full ram power, it should possess a greater strength than is applied to ordinary types of unarmored cruisers. A double bottom should extend throughout the entire space occupied by the machinery and transverse coal bunkers. It is the opinion of the Board that a steel deck, one and a half inches in thickness, should be fitted over the space occupied by the boilers and machinery, space occupied by the boilers and machinery, the outer edges to be about four feet below the load line. The magazines and shell-rooms should be inclosed by water-tight bulkheads, and covered by a protective flat three-fourths of an inch in thickness. To have no main projecting keel, but blige keels extending well fore and aft. The vessel should be bark-rigged to copaliant sails. The area of the plain sail should not exceed 12,600 square feet. All main water-tight transverse bulkheads to extend to upper deck. To have a complete system of drainage, consisting of two large main drain pipes, one on either side of the vertical keel in the double bottom, and connected with a stand-box. Accompanying the report is a circular of specifications. These specifications require, among other things, the following:

These specifications require, almong other thinas, refollowing:

The vessels are to have a maximum speed of fourteen knots in smooth water and a maintained sea speed of thirteen knots. The bunker capacity to be at least 500 tons of coal, and there shall be room for pro-risions for 230 men for minety days and water for 20 days.

The space allotted for the engines and their appurtemances, steam pumps, and cir unlation and air pumps if separate, will be about 31 feet 6 inches in length, between the athwartiship bulkheads. The largest possible amount of coal is to be left on each side of the engines. The height above the inner skin of the vessel to the water line will be about 13 feet in order to keep the machinery below that ove the inner skin of the vessel to be water below that out 13 feet in order to keep the machinery below that int. The stroke of the piston is to be not less than 42 ches, and each cylinder used is to be fitted with an elependent expansion gear having an easy adjustment, rying from one-quarter to three-quarters of the roke. The cylinders are to be fitted with steam jacknown. There are to be two independent surface condense capable of maintaining a vacuum of 26 inches of

nercury.

The screw will be fixed, and have a diameter not exmeeding seventeen feet. The main crank-shaft will be
seading seventeen feet. The main crank-shaft will be
separate and interchangeable for each cylinder with
nermediate couplings and of "built-up" steel forcines.
There will be two ordinary clutch-gears for diseagazing,
the propeller-shafting, one coupling with the engine
haft and the other with the after or screw shaft. There
haft and the other with the after or screw shaft. shaft and the other with the after or screw shaft. Then will be a suitable friction arrangement to secure the Screw from revolving when "coupling up" which may be necessary at sea. The reversing gear is to be operated by steam and of approved design. A marine governor is desirable if applied without complication and in a practical manner. There shall be fitted the necessary gear operated by a pair of small steam cylinders, for mirring the main engines for adjustment, etc. Suitable provisions are to be made to admit of the convenient removal of crank-shafts and other principal working parts.

removal of crank-shaits and other principal working parts.

There will be not less than two independent fire-rooms for the boilers. The total length occupied by boilers is not to exceed 63 feet, and the width is to be 19 feet 8 inches, the diameter of the boilers not exceeding 11 feet. The boilers are to contain an effective grate-surface of about 400 square feet, and a heating surface of about 10,000 square feet. There will be two smoke-pipes, fitted with the necessary connectons for its independent use; the stop-valves to be operated from outside the boiler compartments. The fire-rooms are to be so arranged as to have a width of nine feet between the furnaces. Provision is to be made for certain extra pumps and distilling apparatus. The total weight of the steam machinery, including water in boilers and in condenser, with shafting, propeller and all appartenances and spare machinery, will not exceed 638 tons.

THE ARMY AND NAVY.

WASHINGTON, March 14 .- By the death of Lieutenant-Colonel William H. Browne, 1st infantry, Major Charles G. Bartlett, of the 11th Infantry, will b promoted to Lieutenant-Colonel of the 1st Infantry Captain James A. Snyder, 3d Intancry, to Major 11th Infactry ; First Lieutenant Edmund Rice, 5th Infantry, to Captain 5th Infantry, and Second Lieutenaut John C. F.

Tillson, 5th Infantry, to First Lieutenant 5th Infantry. The extension of leave of absence granted First-Lieu tenant James R. Richards, jr., 4th Cavalry, December 29, 1882, has been extended five days; Captain Charles L. Heizmann, Assistant-Surgeon United States Army, will be relieved from duty in the Department of the South and will report in person to the commanding officer

Columbus Barracks, for duty,

The leave of absence on surgeon's certificate of dis ability granted Captain Charles B. Western, 14th In-fantry, January 9, 1883, has been extended one month Second Lieutenant Charles F. Lloyd, 14th Infantry. has been accepted by the President to take effect June 10, 1883. The following transfers in the 34 Artillery have been ordered: First Lieutenant Charles Humphreys from Battery B to Battery K; First Lieutenant Charle W. Hobbs from Battery K to Battery B.

Lieutenanta C. H. Arnold and Chapman C. Todd, Passed Assistant Surgeon Howard Smith, Paymaster H. T. Wright, Chief Engineer Robert B. Hine and Passed Assistant Engineer John L. Hannum have been ordered to the Nipsic; Medical Director Edward Shippen to do duty at the Naval Hospital, Philadelphia, on the 31st Inst.; Pay Director John S. Canningham as Inspector of Provisions at the New-York Navy-Yard on the 15th Inst.; Pay Inspector John H. Stevenson, to do duty at the New-York Navy-Yard on the 31st inst; Passed Assistant Paymaster M. C. McDonald, to the Rauger; Medical Director S. F. Cones has been detached from Y mail aboratory Naw-York, and placed of waiting orders; Medical Director Richard C. Dean, from the Navat Hospital, Philadelphia, on the 31st inst., an ordered to duty at the Naval Hospital, Brooklyn, N. Y. Medical Juspector D. Bloodgood from the Naval Hos d to duty at the Naval Hospital, Brookiu, N. I.; at Inspector D. Bloodgood, from the Naval Hospitacklyn, and ordered to the Naval Laboratory, 1878; Passed Assistant Surseon R. A. Urqubart, but accepting-ship Independence and granted six is leave of absence; Payunaster T. S. Thompson, too New-York Navy-Yard, on the 31st inst, and d to settle accounts and wait orders; Passed Ast Paymaster John R. Martin, from temporary duty spector of Prayisions at New-York on the 15th least to continue on duty as assistant to the

and to continue on duty as assistant to the for; Assistant Faymaster John Corwine, from the ordered to settle accounts and wait orders. F. H. Tyler has been ordered to the Nipsic E. J. Dorn has been detached from the Hydro-Midsaipmen W. G. Riehardson and Frankin Swiit from
the receiving sup wabsah and ordered to the Nipsic;
Passed Assistant Surgeon F. B. Stephenson from the
Norious Navy Yard and ordered to the New York Navy
Yard; Passed Assis and Surgeon Nelson McP. Ferchee
from the New-York Navy Yard and ordered to the Norfolk Navy Yard; Chief Engineer George P. Hant from
the Ramacr on the completion of her repairs and ordered to proceed to Washington and report to the Buread of Steam Engineering; Passed Assistant Engineer
T. J. W. Looper from the receiving shap Frankin and
placed on warding orders? Passed Assistant Engineer
Stay Potts from the Miantonomah and ordered to duty
in the draughtsman's room of the Bureau of Steam Engineering; Passed Assistant Engineer
John F. Bingham
from the Navy Yard, Mare Island, and ordered to the
Ranger.

court-martial which recently tried Passed Assist The court-martial which recently tried Passed Assistant surgeon W. G. G. Wilson at Norfolk, on a charge of insucordinate conduct and neglect of duty, found him guilty of the first charge in a loss degree than charged, and sentene do him to be contined on the United States steamship Swatara for tairty days. Secretary Chaudler approved the sentence, but as the Swatara is at sea, remitted the punishment imposed. Surgeon Wilson has been released from arrest and the court dissolved.

The United States steamship Minatonomah was put out of commission this afternoon at the Washington Navy Yara. She will remain here for some time before being sent to Paihadelpais, where the work of fitting nor turrets and defle tire as more will probably be done.

The United States steamer Trenton, which is now being repaired at the New-York N. vy Yard, will in all probability be ordered to the Aslate Station to take the place of the Richmond as flagship of the squadron.

THE BELLOWS CASE DECIDED.

WASHINGTON, March 14 .- The Second Controller of the Treasury has rendered an interesting decision in the case of Paymsster Bellows, of the Navy. This officer having once been dismissed the service was re-instated by President Hayes, and as there was some doubt as to the legality of this action, he was reappointed by special act of Congress, approved March 3, 1883. The Second Court-lier noids that he is emitted to the same rate of pay from March 3, 1883, as if his present com-mission had issued on February 20, 1866, the date upon

PROGRESS OF THE CENSUS WORK, Washington, March 14 .- George W. Richards, who has charge of the Census Office in the absence of General Walker, said to-day that the first quarto volume of the first report is nearly ready, and the manu script copy for the second volume, which will be de voted to manufactures, is in the hands of the public printer. The copy for the third volume, which will reprinter. The copy for the third volume, which will re-late to agriculture, has been finished and material for seven more volumes is in readiness. This part of the work will fill from fourteen to seventeen volumes and will be completed by the end of the next fiscal year. There are thirty special reports, covering thirty separate investigations, and they will all be in hand by the last of July.

LAND OFFICE DECISIONS.

WASHINGTON, March 14 .- In a communication to the Commissioner of the General Land Office re specing the repayment of purchase money, under the act of June 16, 1880, the Secretary of the Interior holds that wherever entry of land is made by specific location and wholly fails, the scrip or warrant, being within the control of the General Land Office and not in fact satisfied, may be returned for proper location upon cancellation of the former invalid entry. But where the consid eration is carried tato the Treasury as cash and can only be withdrawn by application under the repayment it must be repaid in the manner provided by those stat-ties "out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated"; and in cases of excess, where they fall within the provisions of the repayment acts, the excess Statesman.

must also be repaid, as provided by the law, out of such meneys.

The Secretary of the Interior has affirmed the recent decision of the Commissioner of the General Land Office, denying the right of the State of Florida to select certain specified tracts of double minimum lands aggregating 2,240 acres, in lieu of a deficit of like quantity of lands situated in fractional townships.

AN IMPORTANT LAND CASE. 4 Washington, March 14 .- The case of Willam C. Walsh, Commissioner of the General Land Office of the State of Texas, against William Preston, argument of which was concluded in the Supreme Court of the United States to-day, is a suit which involves the title to nearly 3,000 square miles of land within the limits of what is known as "Mercer's Colony," situated in the State of Texas, between the present city of Dallas and the Indian Territory, along the head waters of Red and Trinity Rivers. William Preston, the appellee, who represents a joint stock company known as the "Texas Association," claims the lands under a contract made in 1844 between the Republic of Texas and one Charles Feuton Mercer, and he seeks to restrain the Land Commissioner from issuing certificates for these lands as if they were a part of the public domain. The Commissioner, on the other hand, maintains that he is acting in the line of his rightful official powers, for the reason that the lands have been reannexed by competent authority to the public domain.

INTEREST ON CALLED BONDS. WASHINGTON, March 14.-Assistant Secre tary French, who a now acting as Secretary of the Treasury, said to-day that he did not think the present state of the public reasury Twould justify the anticipa-tion of interest on the called bonds which will mature on May 1. He said also that he would not issue another bond call unless specially directed to do so by Secretary

Folger. The latter is known to be opposed to making any other call at present and also to anticipating interest on bonds embraced in the last call if it can be avoided. He will, however, accept the proposition of the Controller of the State of New York to surrender for redemption on April 1 \$2,000,000 of bonds included in the last call, with the understanding that interest upon them shall cause at that date.

cease at that date.

THE DUTY ON SHELLAC VARNISH. WASHINGTON, March 14--The Treasury Department has issued instructions to collectors of cusoms that shellae varnish, manufactured in Canada out of American alcohol imported in bond from the United States, shall be subject to duty on reimportation on a value not less than the value of the materials, viz.; Alcohol and shellac, in the open markets of Canada.-Heretofore this article has been valued for ad valorem duty at a nominal price in bond upon the ground that there was no market value in Canada for this kind of there was no market value in Canada for this kind of varnish. The customs officers are also instructed that suchae varnish manufactured in bonded warehouses in the United States out of domestic alcohol, and which may have been exported without payment of tax, cannot be returned to the United States upon payment of duty less than the internal revenue tax which was remitted on the alcohol. The officers are instructed to score the barries before expertation in such a manner that they can be identified upon reimportation.

A MANIFESTO BY THE LABOR DIRECTORY. WASHINGTON, March 14.-The Board of Directors appointed by the Central Committee on Labor Legislation, organized by authority of the last congress of National labor unions, has issued a manifesto to be submitted to the organized trade-unions and assemblies of labor of the United States. The manifesto denounces the majority of the Senate as lawyers retained by federated capitalisas; demands an extra session of Congress as a remedy for unpending strikes, and advises all wage-workmen to join their trade-unions or the Knights of Labor, and present an unbroken front.

WASHINGTON NOTES.

Washington, Wednesday, March 14, 1883. A New Post Office in New-York.-A post office has been established at Dunbar on, Oneida County, N. Y., with Oliver A. Hess as postmaster.

APPOINTED SPECIAL COUNSEL.-The Attorney-General has appointed John S. Wise, of Virginia, special count to assist in the prosecution of the Virginia election cas AUTHORIZED TO BEGIN A BANKING BUSINESS.-The Controller of the Currency has authorized the Farmers' National Bank of Boyertown, Penn., to begin business with a capital of \$50,000.

A CHANGE OF QUARTERS.—The Bureau of Navigation. Navy Department, to-day took possession of the quarters intely vacated by the War Department. Commodore Walker, Chief of the Buceau, will take the room formerly occupied by the Secretary of War.

REPRESENTATIVE OCHILTREE'S ACCOUNTS.-The Solie iter of the Treasury said to day that no action would be taken by his office in the matter of Representative Ochil-tree's unsettled accounts as United States Marshal for Texas, until a final decision should be reached with re-gard to the question of withholding the latter's salary as Congressman.

THE PRESIDENT STILL INDISPOSED .- While the President is still somewhat indisposed, he is attending to his official duties as usual. He received a large number of visitors to-day. The arrangements for his proposed trip to Fortress Mouroe have not yet been completed, nor has anything been settled with recard to the contemplated tour in the South. He will probably make a visit to Fortress Mouroe this week, if his other engagements will permut it.

THE MALAGASY EMBASSY. - The Malagasy Ambassadors THE MALAGASY EMBASE.—The analysis of Annessad visited the State Department this afternoon, and made a parting call upon the President. The Ambassed ers expressed profound appreciation of the kind reception they had met with it this country and the many courtesies extended to them. The President expressed the hope that their visit might lead to closer relations between the two Governments. The Ambassadors will leave this city to morrow for New-York.

THE UNITED STATES TREASURERSHIP.—Before the Sec THE UNITED STATES TREASURERSHIP.—Before the Secretary of the Treasury was taken sick be said that the vacancy caused by the resignation of Treasurer Gillillan would be filled by the promotion of one of the officers of that Bureau. The only persons considered for the place are Assistant Treasurer Wyman and E. O. Graves, of the Redemption Agency. It is stated positively at the Waite Hohae to day that the appointment will be made as soon as the Secretary makes known lifs wisines, and that he is only occitating between Mr. Wyman and Mr. Graves. The latter is now regarded as the Secretary's choice.

CO-EDUCATION IN AMERICAN COLLEGES.

The Association for Promoting the Higher Edu-The Association for Promoting the Higher Education of Women recently published a pamoulet on "The Admission of Women to Universities," It consists of letters from President White, of Corneli University: Dr. John Le Conte, ex-president of the University of California; President Ang-II, of the University of Michigan; President Ang-II, of Weslevan University; President Warren, of Boston University; President Fanchild, of Oberlin College; Mrs. Louis Agassiz, on the development of the Harvard Annex, and others. These letters were written answer to questions sent out by the as-Harvard Annex, and others. These letters were written in answer to questions sent out by the association to the presidents of sev-ral American universities where co-education is in operation. The effect of co-education was asked on the standard of scuolarship, the manners and morals of both sexes, and the health of women students, and whether young men had been deterred from entering the university because of its introduction and if the "college feeling" had been lessened. President White in reply to these and other questions said that co-education had been practised in Cornell for ten years, and if the standard of scholarship had been affected at all by co-education it had been improved, and both manners and morals had been improved thereby. The effect upon the health of women, he suid, has been favorable. Regarding the health of the female students in the University of Michigau, President Angell writes: Angell writes:

Angell writes:

I was originally very solicitous in respect to the effect of coilege life or the health of young women. Now and then a woman has been admitted who was not in the proper physical condition to go on with college work. But our experience has brought us to the conclusion that is if our experience has brought us to the conclusion fnat a woman who is in good hearth on beginning her course, and who exercises a fair degree of prudence, can perform her allotted task without harm. Indeed, the regularity and pleasant excitement of the life prove conductive to health, and most women are more vigorous at their graduation than on their admission. The demands made on the strength of young women by college work are certainly not so great as those made by "society" on many a woman. I believe that it would be hard to find an equal number of young women in better health than the female students of the university.

In Oberlin there were in all the departments last year 641 men and 684 women; in the college proper 167 men and 223 women. Co-education has been practised there nearly half a century. Presi-dent Warren says of the moral effect of co-education at Boston University:

at Boston University:

With respect to the refining and elevating effect of the collegiate association of the sexes, it would be difficult for me to express my full convictions without apparent extravagance. If ever college manners and merals are reformed it will be by abolishing the unnatural sexisolation out of which an unnatural academic life has

FORCED TO MAKE AN ASSIGNMENT.

David W. McLean, ship chandler at No. 17 Eastst., made an assignment yesterday to Charles E.
Pell, giving ten preferences amounting to
\$22,154 61. Mr. McLean is in partnership with
his son, George W. McLean, a ship chandler at No.
\$5. West-st., and the latter firm also made an assignment to Mr. Pell, giving sixteen preferences for
\$1,428 91 in all. David W. McLean has been in the
bunness about twelve years. is interested in the
firm of W. H. Wells & Co., Eckford Iron Works,
and is said to be interested in a large number of
vessels. He owns the store building at No. 17
East-st., and is said to own real estate in Brooklyn.
J. Stewart Ross, his attorney, said yosterday that
D. W. McLean was dangerously ill with rheumatism of the heart. A number of accommodation
notes were accruing which could not be taken care
of on account of his condition, and not knowing
how matters stood, it was deemed best to make an
assignment to protect the merchandise creditors.
These accommodation notes and Mr. McLean's sickness were the sole cause for the assignment. The
amount of the notes is not known.

Nething so strongly tests a man's veracity

THE STAR ROUTE TRIAL.

TURNER AND BRADY FOR THE DEFENCE. VIGOROUS AND POSITIVE DENIALS OF THE STATE-MENTS OF WALSH AND RERDELL.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.] WASHINGTON, March 14.-General Brady was somewhat unexpectedly called to the stand in his own defence this afterdoon in the Star Route trial. The defence has been in progress several days without any intimation of such a step, and the counsel on that side seemed to avoid any allusion to it. This had caused many to believe that both Brady and Dorsey would refrain, as in the last trial, from going on the stand. It is now expected that Dorsey will, of course, follow Brady's example. The examination to-day presented no sensational features. It

partment as a first class clerk in July, 1865. He was subsequently a route-book clerk and afterward a corresponding clerk, being assigned in 1877 to the Pacific States division. Had nothing to do with the preparation of the advertisement of November, 1877; knew Miner and Rerdell in the spring of 1878; had known Vaile for

ten years; never had an intimate acquaintance with Stephen W. Dorsey. Witness said that after the division of the routes, in 1879, Rerdell and Valle would meet without speaking. Rerdell had nothing to do with Miner's routes after that date and Miner had no control over the routes managed by Rerdell. A paper connected with the Rawlins-White River route was presented to the witness. He said that the alteration—an erasure of "eighty hours" and inser tion of "forty-five hours"-had been made by himself, to save the trouble of making up a new case. petitions were never altered while in the Department.

Mr. Wilson inquired of the witness if he had ever re ceived money, mining stock + or other consideration from any of the defendants to influence his action in connec tion with the routes. The prosecution objected because the witness was not now a party to the indictment. Argument on this point occupied the attention of the Cours until after the noon recess. Mr. Ingersoll, in explanation of the offer, asserted that the pencil memoran dum was not genuise, but was in whole or part made by Berdell. It was a part of the defence to show that Brady as "Smith" never received a cent, that Turner as "Joses" never received a cent. Suppose it should turn out that not a solitary cent had been paid to Brady or to Turner, he thought it would establish the fact that the pencil memorandum was not genuine, o that the meaning put upon it was absolute perjury. It would establish the fact that Rerdell had maliciously and falsely put a wrong meaning on the entries. The question was whether he did not write the memorandum imself for the purpose of purchasing his own liberty rom the Government. The defence wanted to go father and prove by others, whom Rerdell said hal re selved money, that it was false. Mr. Ingersoli inquired if the Court would allow Dorsey to swear that he made that memorandum; never paid money to

The Court answered in the affirmative, and Mr. Ingersoll said that, of course, he could strengthen Dorsey's testimony by Turner, who would swear that he never got the money. It made no difference which end of the inmiry they began at.

The Court said that it might lead to an evasion of law airing the best evidence.

Xr. Ingersoli-You mean the books?

The Court-Yes. Mr. Ingersoli-I have said again and again the books speken of by Rerdell my client never saw; he will so swear. The books Rerdell said he got from New-York I will prove he never got; I will prove that my client never saw or even heard of these books before the beginning of these cases. He may have kept some private account books. The Court-Finean the stub books.

Mr. Ingersoli-They had nothing to do with the \$600

o imputation against him; there was nothing for the Court to inquire about. But when MacVeagh was salled to prove the Rerdell conversation, the competence of his evidence had been carefully considered by the court, and it held that the confession, baving been made after the dissolution of the conspiracy, it was not evidence against anybody but himself. The Court was of the same opinion now as when MacVeagh's evidence was admitted against Herdell. The Court was not prepared to say, however, that where the evidence in its complication concerned some one case that it might not be contradicted upon that point. It was a question whether or not Turner was connected in that way. Rerdell told MacVeagh that one of those entires concerned Turner, and that it was made by the direction of Dorsey. It was proposed to contradict that by proving that the witness never received any money. It did not disprove nor tend to disprove Kerdell's statement to MacVeagh. Dorsey may nave given that direction to Rerdell for his own purposes and there might have been no foundation for the entry. The Court, therefore, thought that the evidence was not competent.

The defence noted an exception and the examination was resumed. Mr. Wilson offered to prove that Brady refused to grant the request of a mimber of petitions for a second and further expedition upon the Re. ding-Alturas route, and the Court decladed to allow the inquiry. The witness and that after the route had been expedited a number of petitions had been received requesting further expedition, which request had been refused by Brady.

The witness was then turned over to the prosecution for cross-examination. He said that he had taken much interest in this case and may have spoken to one or more of the witnesses. Had spoken with the witness French, but never sought him out. Might also have spoken to Eugene Raylor. Did not attempt to influence French at testimony and did not tell him had it on would retrain from injuring the defence more than he could help that he would receive a certain consideration. Since he had been researched in 1880 in a patent life-examp.

In answer to Mr. Wilson, witness had been interested with Kerdell in 1880 in a patent life-examp.

In answer to Mr. Wilson, witness and he had been removed from his position in the Dep Artment as a consequence of Rerdell's statements to MacVeag against anybody but himself. The Court was of the

GENERAL BRADY CALLED TO THE STAND. General Thomas J. Brady was then called. He testified that in July, 1876, he was appointed Second Assistant Postmaster-General and retired in April, 1881. In the fall of 1876 was at the office only about half of the time. First met Walsh at New Orleans in 1875-1876; witness

was there in his official capacity as Supervising Inspector of Internal Revenue; next met Walsh in 1877; never had any conversation with Walsh, such as sworn to by him, at any time or place in the world, or anythin resembling it. Witness never held any promissory notes, or carried them away as described by Walsh. "Walsh's statement is a lie anade out of whole cloth," said the witness, "with scarcely a word of truth in it from beginning to end." Never told Walsh anything about fines and deductions, or anything from which it could be deduced. Had had a conversation with James such as testified to by that witness in relation to the Rawlins-White River route, but the date was a month later than that given by James. James had never given him any order to revoke one of his orders.

His first recollection of Rerdell was very indistinct; could not say how often he saw him. Rerdell knew he did not like him and came around very little. His whole statement about the books was a lie made of whole cloth. Rerdell never told him of any books to be shown the committee, nor did witness know of the existence of any such books. resembling it. Witness never held any promissory notes.

THE MEETING WITH DORSEY AT CHAMBERLAIN'S. Mr. Wilson referred to Rerdell's statement of the meeting at Chamberlain's. Witness said he met Dorsey at his request at Willard's Hotel; witness had been chairman of the Indiana State Committee, and was supposed to know something of the State; therefore, he had been called upon to advise Dorsey. They repaired to Chamberiam's and Boaler came in; a few glasses of wine were drunk and witness went away. The conversation was entirely on political subjects, and star routes and mail matters were not mentioned. Witness had no knowledge of the tabulated statement spoken of by Rerdell with the "T. J. B. 33 per cent "column.

Witness said that the advertisement of November, 1877, had been prepared by the route-book clerks. Witness was so new in office that he gave few instructions to the clerks. Had known Valle for years; he was one of the oldest and best coutractors in the service of the Department; met Miner at the letting in 1878. Never saw Jehn Dorsey before the first trial began. Had known Stephen W. Dorsey for some years. Had an Indistinct to know something of the State; therefore, he had been

recollection of Indian depredations upon some of the routes; the Indians and road-agents were continually in terfering with the service. Before Valle connected himself with the other detendants in the mail business they had falled to put service upon some of their routes. Did not now remember how he informed them that very little additional time would be allowed; might have told Turner to give them very little time. That was his usual course. When he heard that Valie had come into the Miner combination be granted further time, because he knew Valle's trustworthiness and feit sure that he would put on the service. Witness knew nothing of the manner of preparing affidavits filed in the office. Never heard of any changes being made in them or of their being filled out in blank until the first trial. The petitions were considered mainly because they were indorsed by members of Congress, whom he believed represented the popular sentiment. Therefore he attacked to them more importance than to the reports of special agents and inspectors. Could not have known of any changes in petiti as after their progration.

ALLOWANCES FOR EXPEDITION. The witness described the method pursued by him in calculating the allowance for expedition. He saw no better rule then, and knew of no better rule now. Co

ination to-day presented no sensational features. It consisted mainly of reiterated and positive denials by Brady of the statements of Walsh and Rerdell. The cross-examination is looked forward to with some interest, as the prosecution has all along expressed an anxiety to get Brady on the stand as a witness.

Mr. Merrick said, in conversation after the adjournment, that the only reflection suggested to his mind by Brady's testimony was a wonder why, if Walsh's story and Rerdell's statements as recounted by James and MacVengh were the lies Brady now says they are, Brady did not promptly go upon the stand in the last trial and make the denial which he makes now.

PROCEEDINGS IN THE COURT-ROOM.

Washingfon, March 14.—In the Star Route trial this morning Mr. Wilson cailed as a witness William th. Turner, the only defendant who was acquitted on the first trial. He said that he entered the Post Office Department as a first class clerk in July, 1865. He was them and told witness that he had done right. Thereaft whenever witness was in doubt about a route, went to Judge Key and the latter was muliberal than himself. It was one of the Judge's hobbtorn a mail to every county seat, and they did it. The doubled up the service in the Southern and Middenberg and Mi

> HOW FINES AND DEDUCTIONS WERE MADE. At the request of Mr. Wilson, the witness described the method pursued in the Department in making fines and deductions. He said that ordinarily it was a matter of form with the Second Assistant Postmaster-General.

deductions. He said that ordinarily it was a matter of form with the Second Assistant Postmaster-General. for the entire work was done by the inspection division, and he would not be likely to know of a particular case uniess his attention was called to it. Speaking of remissions, he said that, as a rule, they took exactly the same routine, and he knew nothing of them until they were presented for signature. During an absence of the Postmaster-General, he made a sweeping remission of fines of all contractors in the yellow-fever district and with the expedition of that period he never failed to Impose fines. Never received any money nor combined with any of the defendants to defraud the Government of the United States. Until they began to be persecuted togother winess did not like Senator Dorsey much; they were neither friendly nor untriendly; since that time he had come to know and like dim.

Speaking of the Vermillion-Stonx Falls route witness said that Delegate Kidder was very desirons of having a daily mail there. The contractors were losing money on the service and objected that they would lose more under a daily scaedule. Posterior the route was expedit at to compensate the contractors; that was one of the princtiples they worked under at that time. Subsequently Judge Kidder retired from Congress, and his successor, Mr. Bennett, requested the witness to increase another route and discontinue the Vermillion route. Witness declined to discontinue the service granted at Judge Kidder's request, but promised to de what he could for the other route. Witness believed that General Miles was the first person to arge the establishment of the Tougue River route. The matter of expection on that route was expedite the route. Witness believed that General Miles was the first person to arge the establishment of the Tougue River route. The matter of expedition on that route was expedited by the service was apparent, and the only way to get it was to expedite the route.

M'GLOIN'S COMPANIONS ARRESTED.

Henry E. Hopkins, a young engineer employed on one of the steamships of the Texas line, went into Nelson's inquor store, at Seventh-ave and Thirristh-st., at 4:30 a, m. y-sterday and called for a glass of st, at 4:30 a. m. yearnay men who were strangers to nopkins were standing at the bar. Their conversation indicated that they were ruffinas. One of them invited Hopkins to drink a glass of whiskey, and when the engineer refused he was laughed at contemptuously. The ruffian remarked "you ain't contemptuously. The ruffian remarked "you ain't no man," and his comrades gave their assent to the offensive speech. Not wishing to have a quarrel, Hopkins left the liquor store and went down the avenue. The ruffians followed him out. He turned into Twenty-ninth-st., to go toward Eighth-ave., and the young man who had insulted him called after him: "Say, young feller, I'm going your way." He overtook Hopkins and made a show of being friendly, introducing himself as James Kelly. Then he asked Hopkins to lend him 50 cents. The engineer refused and Kelly began to curse him. Three of Kelly's companions then came up and fell upon Hopkins. They threw him down, choked him and turned his pockets inside out. Having secured his watch and chain and about \$11\$ they ran toward Sixth-ave. in company with Having secured his watch and country with \$11 they ran toward Sixth-ave. in company with

riopkins went toward the Thirtieth Street Police Mr. Ingersoll—They had nothing to do with the \$600 entry against Jones. When it comes to that, I will prove that there were no such stab books; and if allowed I will prove that no check ever existed such as described by Berdell.

THE EVIDENCE NOT COMPETENT.

When the Court metafter the recess Judge Wyhle took up the question of the admissibility of the offered evidence. The witness was not a defendant in this case. The jury had acquitted him of the charge against him, and that matter was not a subject of investigation. There was no imputation against him; there was nothing for the fixed for to-day because Hopkins must leave the city with his vessel on Friday.

A NEW MARKET ORDINANCE PROPOSED. The Committee on Markets of the Board of Aldermen, which has been inquiring into the charges that favori ism was shown in disposing of stands in the new Fulton Market, has finished its report. The the new Fulton Market, has the index its report. The committee is of the opinion that stands have been unfairly let, and that partiality has been shown. In some cases gross injustice has been done to some of the standholders in the old building. The report says that a public market should be confined to its proper and legitimate uses, and that no article should be sold which is intended to be consumed in the building. It is recommended that the market stands shall not be let to residents outside of this city. The proposed ordinance which accompanies the report provides that no person shall keep an ing restaurant, oyster-house, or dising-room, or sell nn, restaurant, oyster-house, or diring-room, or sel iquors, or cigars, or cooked food to be eaten on t

shail be let for one year at public auction. The report and accompanying ordinance were presented at the meeting of the Board of Aldermen, but were lad over for further consideration.

Should the proposed ordinance be adopted, it would work quite a revolution in several of the markets. The various restaurants would be driven out, and large dealers, who hold from six to twelve stama, would have their business very much curtailed. Very many of the standholders live in Brooklyn, and others in Jersey City and Westchester county. These would be heligible as standholders. It is not likely that the ordinance will pass in its present shape. It will probably be amended at the next meeting of the Board of Aldermen in many important particulars.

THE CHARGES AGAINST MR. THOMPSON.

commissioner Thompson was before the Mayor for a short time yesterday with reference to the charges made by the Committee on Department Exp nditures of the Council of Reform. The Commissioner professed his readiness to meet the charges against him. The Mayor said he had not had time to examine the charges Commissioner Thompson was before the Mayor that time to examine the charges carefully, and requested Mr. Thompson to confer with him at noon to-day. Mr. Thompson said later in the day that he had nothing further to say with reference to the matter. nothing further to say with reference to the matter.

Thomes H. McAvoy, Superintendent of Repairs and Supplies, said ye teiday to a reporter of IHE IRIBUNE that the charge that he is not a practical builder, and therefore not eligible for his position, is easily answered. He was nominated in 1880 for Superintendent of Buildings by Mayor Cooper. He was to succeed Henry Dudley, fr. The Committee of Architects of the American Institute which examined him was composed of Henry Dudley, sr., father of the Superintendent of Buildings; George B. Post, E. T. Luttell, Richard M. Upjohn and Napoleon Le Brun. The examination was naturally a rigid one, as he was to replace the son of the chairman of the committee. The examination lasted for three days, and at the conclusion he received his certificate from the committee. He was never confirmed, but this was because of political complications, the Republican and Tammany Aldermen holding together to prevent the Mayor's nomineer from being conto prevent the Mayor's nominees from being con firmed. Ultimately the Department was abolished and made a bureau of the Fire Department.

DISCUSSING REPENUE REFORM.

The sixth and last lecture before the Brook yn Revenue Reform Club was given in the Assembly oms of the Academy of Music last evening by Thoma G. Shearman. He was introduced by Mr. Beecher. Mr. Shearman's subject was "Protectionist Theories and Free Trade Facts." He argued that protection was an evil to both manufacturer and workman, while free trade would benefit both. He denounced the action on the tariff by the late Congress.

The regular grocery store ganglhad discussed the usual topics of the day, ween the fat man on the soap box introduced the subject of nearo suffrage. "I don't care what some follows say, I can't reconcile myself to the fact that a big, burly darkey is equal to a white man." "Nor I, nor I," chimed in the chorus of assenters. "But I think they can be easily placed on the same footing," remarked the busky-voiced man who occupied the corn barrol. "How!" "Why, just by sawing off about six inches of their feet." was the crosscut answer. The meeting broke up in a riot.—[New-London Day.

AT THE STATE CAPITAL.

INCONSISTENT DEMOCRATIC SENATORS. REVERSING THEIR OPINIONS OF A YEAR AGO IN ORDER TO SECURE THE NEW CAPITOL PATRON-AGE.

FROM THE REGULAR CORRESPONDENT OF THE TRIBUNE. ALBANY, March 14 .- When the Democratic leaders plotted to grab the patronage of the New Capitel they little suspected that their scheme would meet with meh a firm opposition from the Republican members of the Legislature as it has encountered. The bill was opposed in the Senate and the stoutly Lieutenant-Governor Hill yesterday is pronounced untenable by some of the best parliamentarians in the Senate. In effect the Lieutenant-Governor ruled that the constitutional requirement that at least twenty members of the Senate shall be present at the passage of a bill appropriating money from the State Treasury is obeyed if only eighteen of these Senators vote on the bill. The Republicans contend that the only evidence of twenty Senators being " present " is their vote recorded

either for or against the bill. An astonishing feature of the dispute is that the Dem ocrats abstained from voting a year ago and thereby prevented the passage of the Railway Commission bill in its first form. Then they told the Republicans that it would be unconstitutional to consider them as " present" although they were in the enate C'amber. Lieutenant-Governor Hoskins, a Republican, coincided in this view, and day after day had the bill put aside for lack of sufficient votes. This year the Democrats turn "right about face." Through their Lieutenant-Governor they decide that a mode of proredure is legal now which was illegal a year ago. Republicans are consistent, as in both years they have declared that if the Lieutenant-Governo should consider Senators as "present," although they should not vote, it would be contrary to the commands of the Constitution. A grap for spoils, it is evident, has caused this remarkable change of opinion on the part of the Democrats.

should not vote, it would be contained it is evident, has caused this remarkable change of opinion on the part of the Democrats.

Upon the meeting of the Senate this morning Senator Thomas, in behalf of the Republican Senators, appealed from Liceusenant-Governor Hill's ruling. He moved that the journal should be corrected where it declared that certain keptablican Senators were "present" but "not voting." The motion opened a debate on the ruling of the Liceutenant-Governor which lasted all the morning and far into the afternoon. Speeches were made unon the Republican side by Senators Pitts, Thomas, Ellsworth, McCarthy and F. Lansing, and upon the Democratic side by Senators Pitts, Thomas, Ellsworth, McCarthy and F. Lansing, and upon the Democratic side by Senators Pitts, Thomas, and others, Senator Thomas said he questioned the right of the clerk to note the presence of the Senators who had refused to vote on the bill. The understanding between the Fresident and the clerk by which the entry in question had been made on the journal had been arrived at secretly and without the knowledge of the Senate. It was not based on the affirmative action on the part of the Senators recorded as present. The ruling of the President was improper.

Senator Jacobs, the Democratic lender of the Senators are said that it was an error to declar- that the journal danot show the presence of the Remublican Senators. The Senator Pitts said: "We claim that nether the Liceutenant-Governor Senators nor clerk had a right to interpolate in the journal anything else tuan the usual statement about bills. Itls not in the power of any presiding officer to direct what shall appear in the journal danot spreader of the Assembly has a right to such authority, as he is a member of the Assembly. If you are to decide this matter under the rules the presiding officer to extrainly wrong. I submit that the argument of the Liceutenant-Governor has no place here. It is a dangerous precedent—one that you cannot afford to make. Take an inserting one of the S

overnor has every right except to vote, as a men Governor has every control of the Republicans to amend in the end the motion of the Republicans to amend the journal was defeated, all the Democrats voting in the negative. The bill will be returned to the Assembly, some amendments having been made to it by the Senate. The Assembly Republicans will oppose its passage.

TOPICS IN BOTH HOUSES. W. B. RUGGLES ELECTED SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION-MEASURES RELATING

TO NEW-YORK CITY. FROM THE REGULAR CORRESPONDENT OF THE TRIBUNE ALBANY, March 14.—The Legislature elected

William B. Ruggles Superintendent of Public Instruction o-day. Mr. Ruggles received 94 votes and Neil Gilmon 52 votes. The Assembly began debating the Supply bill to-day, but had only considered a few items when Michael C. Murphy offered an amendment

providing for an appropriation of \$25,000 for the Catholic Protectory of New-York. The amendment was assation by Messers. Hosservelt and Howe of New-York, and by Mr. Hunt, of Jefferson County. While the debute was vet in progress the hour of adjournment was reached. Mr. Haggerty, like all the Democrats from New-York, shows remarkable powers of invention when the Legis lature devotes itself to office-manufacturing. To-day he introduced a bill authorizing the election of three Surrogates in New-Y rk. At present, as is well known, there is only one. The present Surrogate is to remain in office till his term expires; while two Surrogates are to salary each, and are to serve for six years. The court parts: first, " a part for ex-parte business, hearing o notion and making and signing orders and decrees;

motion and making and sixning orders and decrees; secondly, the hearing and disposition of probate cases; and third, the hearing of contested accountings." It is suspected that "x-Surrogate "a.vin, who was in Albany recently, is the author of the bill.

H. D. Nelson introduced a bill to-day intended to foster forest culture. The bill has the following provision: "Whenever any of the improved innds within the State shall be replanted and have growing thereon 600 trees to the area, to be planted as near as practicable an equal distance from each other, such lainly shall be exempt from tax ation so long as they shall remain forest tanis." Mr. Scawarz introduced a bill to-day providing for only one Commissioner of the Dock Department of New-York. This Commissioner's term of four years is made to begin on May I next, and he is given a sainry of \$5,000 yearly. The bill ends the term of office of the present Commissioners. As Mr. Schwarz is a Tammany Democrat, it is believed that his bill is for the special benefit of Tammany Hall and that, if the bill should become a law, that ortanization would have the naming of the Commissioner.

The Assembly Committee on Ways and Means reported.

he Commissioner.

The Assembly Committee on Ways and Means reported mf. yerably Mr. Ernst's bill establishing a State Printing Office. The Jameiary Committee reported favorably ir. House's bill forbidding the sair of pistols to children. ir. House's but forbidding the sate of pistols to children, face same committee reported adversely Mr. Van Allen's bid forbidding the admission of children under fourteen years of age to theatres when maccompanied by adults. The Assembly Railroad Com-nition reported lavorably Senator Treanor's bil com-pelling the elevated railroads of New-York to run trains

pelling the clevated radicals of New-York forum trains all nu.lit.

The Assembly Cities Committee will report favorably the bill providing for pacing electric light, telegraph and telephone wires underground.

Aside from the debate on the ruling of Lieutemant-Governor Hill on the New Capitol Commission bill, there was little done in the senate to-day. A few bills were historic control of the stockholders of a solvent corporation gree, they may petition the supreme Court for permission to dissolve the corporation, and that trustees to be agreed upon by such stockholders shall be appointed to close up the corporation's affairs; by Mr. Duly, providing that on and after June 1, 1883, the Governor, Leutemant-Governor, Secretary of State, Controller, Attorney-General and Friesters shall not be trustees of Union College; and by Mr. Russell, probibiling the extension or construction or radicoals within the limits of any city without the consent of the Mayor and Common Council of the city.

Ar. Howe introduced a bill in the Assembly creating a commission to Investigate the contract labor system.

Erasus Brooks introduced an amendment to the Constitution to-day in the Assembly providing for woman suffrage.

The Senate Committee on Commerce and Navigation

auffrage.

The Senate Committee on Commerce and Navigation taught heard arguments on the bill to reduce the carges of the Sandy Hook pilots. The committee decided report the bill raverably. As reported the bill relaces the fees of the pilots 31% per cent.

THE SENATE APPORTIONMENT BILL.

JBY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNDA! ALBANY, March 14 .- The Senate Congress sional Apportionment Committee was hard at work to-night on Senator Jacobs's Apportionment sill. Many dif-ferences of opinion were discovered in regard to the composition of the districts in the interior of the State. The New-York Democrats also said that they were not alto-gether satisfied with the formation of the districts in that city suggested in the Assembly Apportionment bill. Two of the Democratic Congressmen, Perry Belmont and Lewis Beach, arrived here to-day for the purpose, it is thought, of preventing any alteration in their present districts. The Senators did not complete their bill and do not think they will have it ready for publication for saveral days.

THE NEW-JERSEY LEGISLATURE

FROM THE REGULAR CORRESPONDENT OF THE TRIBUNE TRENTON, N. J., March 14.-The Assembly this morning defeated a proposition to amend the Con stitution so as to provide for representation by popula tion instead of counties. Mr. Cator, who introduc proposed amendment, attacked the existing system as unrepublican and a remnant of the bad systems of th past. Mr. Bryant and Mr. Neighbour opposed the mendment and it was glost, 28 to 28. The attempt to modify the representation in the Senate has been made yearly without accomplishing anything. When by some lucky chance the proposition has been adopted by the Assembly, the Senate has promptly rejected it by the votes of the Senators from the smaller counties. The bill to defray the incider tal expenses of the present session

has been printed and was laid before the members today. An attempt to reduce the exorbitant stationery bills falled. The itemized bills were read and from these it appeared that the members have received pocketooks, stylographic pens, ink erasers, paper cutters, rubber bands, etc., in bundles which were sent secretly to their rooms. The items were left as they appeared in the bill. An item of \$500 for a "document clerk" in the Assembly, a hitherto unknown official, was reduced to \$350. An item of \$50 to a clerical gentleman for opening the sessions with prayer was increased to \$160, the members, an several speeches, stating that any person who was obliged to pray for this House descred extraordinary compensation. The bill was finally ordered to a third reading. The Assembly in the past two days has made very little progress with its business. There are over 150 bills awaiting action on the Speaker's table, and in the last forty-eight hours only eleven measures have received final action. Fortunately there are not above a dozen bills which are needed by the State. The Assembly will meet to-morrow morning and will probber bands, etc., in bundles which were sent secretly to Assembly will meet to-morrow morning and will prably then adjourn for the week.

A VETO BY GOVERNOR BUTLER.

Boston, March 14.-Governor Butler presented to the Legislature to-day a message vetoing the bill making appropriations for the expenses of various charitable and reformatory institutions of the State. He declined to sign it because it contains appropriations for distinct purposes, some of which are objectionable and others are not, and are but a continuation of what he says is the vicious practice of uniting in one bill different appropriations for entirely diverse objects. Most of the appropriations, he says, are for the payment of salaries, expenses and cost of supervision of certain institutions, and he estimates the appropriation for salaries at 69 per cent of the amount to be expended for the maintenance of these institutions. ries at 69 to be expended for the maintenance of these institutions. He is more than ever convinced that the Commonwealth employs more officers and agents than are necessary to do its business, and realisms and sassertions that the State institutions are managed with unnecessary extravagance. He declines to be responsible for such a bill, and will not even allow it to become a law without his approval, as he might. The Governor returns the bill unapproved, asking the Legislature to base another bill cutting off the large amounts of salaries and placing proper checks upon the expenditure of the money.

LEGISLATION IN PENNSYLVANIA.

HARBISBURG, Penn., March 14 .- Among the oills introduced to-day in the Senate was one to prevent the burning or cremating of human bodies. The bill nakes the penalty for violation a fine of not less than \$500 nor more than \$1,000, and imprisonment of not ess than one nor more than three years solitary confine ment. The joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution providing for a decrease of the number of sensors to tairty-tarce and of the members of the House to 100 was defeated on final passage.

DANGER IN HIGH APARTMENT-HOUSES.

INQUEST IN THE CASES OF MRS. WAKEMAN AND HER DAUGHTER.

The Cambridge flats disaster was taken up by Coroner Martin and a jury yesterday in the form of an inquiry into the death of Mrs. Mary H. Wake-man and Miss Rosamond B. Wakeman. Nine wit-nesses were examined. Inspector Esterbrook gave

nesses were examined. Inspector Esterbrook gave the following testimony:

I have no distinct remembrance of a complaint concerning the Cambridge flats, but I think that there was one in regard to smoke, and that my subordinates reported that there was some trouble with a flat. Our force, twenty in number, is inadequate to do the work required of it effectually. We should have twice the number. These high flats, if they are not oulk of dreproof materials, should have the stairways and high shafts inclosed in brick wails. I think that if the Heasth Board would recommend that the light-shafts should be open to the air the present defects could be remedied by my Department. There were, in my opinion, ample means of escape if the people had not out their wits think these high flats should not be built unless they are made fire-proof throughout.

Fire Marshal George H. Sheldon testified as to the

Fire Marshal George H. Sheldon testified as to the apparent origin of the fire, which he thought started on the west side of the building between the front and the stairway leading to the first floor. "Just at the rear of that stairway," said Mr Sheldon, "was a small shaft inclosed at the basement floor, and at the rear of that z large air shaft opened. The stairway was inclosed with a doorway at the top. That door was opened, and through it the smoke and heat made their way up through the hall and stairway. Had this door been closed no lives would have been lost. Thomas Reid, of No. 327 West Fitty-seventh-st., the owner of the burned apartment-house, testified: "A year ago I had a mechanic put the house in thorough repair. I have spent from \$3,000 to \$5,000 on it, as much as ever spent from \$3,000 to \$5,000 on it, as much as ever I got rent for. I found after I had bought the building that it was a poor one. It sagged, and I had it raised."

After being out half an hour the jury returned a

verdict that the building was imperfectly con-structed, and that the former owner of the building, Mr. Phyle, and also the Superintendent or Inspector of the Building Department under whose administration the building was altered, be censured. The jury exonerated the present owner from all responsibility for the deaths of the two women. They recommended to the Legislature the passage of laws prohibiting the erection of dwellings over six stones in height. They further recommended that all air-wells and elevator shafts in houses of this de-scription be lined with brick and metal. The jury also advised an immediate addition to the staff of

also advised an immediate addition to the staff of building examiners.

Among the printed directions which usually accompany the district telegraph signal boxes for use in offices and dwellings, is one for giving an alarm of fire. Upon receiving such an alarm the clerk in charge of the telegraph office sends some person to the place where the box is. If the messenger fines a fire he then sends out an alarm from a street box. This delay has several times have disastence. been disastrons. According to the testimony of in-mates of the Cambridge flats there was a serious delay—tully diffeen minutes—in this way, in sending information to the Fire Department after the fire was discovered there. If this had been prevented, Mrs. Wakedom and her daughter would pro-ably not have lost their lives, On rotion of Mr. Van Cott the Commissioners on Juesday passed resolutions requiring the American District Telegraph and Mutual District Telegraph companies to establish, at once direct telegraphic ompanies to establish, at once, direct telegraphic ommunication between their district offices and Fire Communication between their district offices and Fire Headquarters. If the companies refuse to comply with this requiremens, action will be taken to compel a modification of the printed directions accompanying their instruments. The Commissioners assert that they have the sole right to make arrange-

ments for extinguishing fires in the city.

Fire Marshal Sheldon on a uesday continued his investigation of the fire in the Cambridge fla.s. He took the testimony of William G. Fletcher, of No. 12 Murray-st., who lived on the first floor of the 12 Murray-st., who lived on the first floor of the house with his wife and two children. Mr. Fletcher made the following statements: "It was between half past 3 and a quarter of 4 that I was awakened by mv wife crying 'fire!" I pulled the district messenger box. I heard no one give any alarm of fire in the house except my wife. A few weeks ago I discovered smoke coming out of the parior from the partition inclosing the folding doors on the west side of the room. It came out so thick as to make it quite uncomfortable. I called the janitor up and he saw it, and then we went down stairs to see if there was any fire below. There was nothing underneath but coal bins. I think the fire underneath my floor from a flue in an ad

REDUCING TAX ASSESSMENTS

Nothing further has been done by the Tax Commissioners in the case of E. S. Vanderpoel, a discharged employé of the Tax Office, charged with endeavoring to extort \$250 from the trustees of the estate of the late Noah f. Pike by having an assessment of \$75,000 reduced. It is alleged that in 1881 this charge was made, and Vanderpoel threatened that unless the \$250 was paid the estate would be taxed the next year for the full amount of the assets. Noah W. Pike, one of the heirs, to whom the threat was made, communicated with the other trustees of the estate and they positively refused to listen to the proposition.

Commissioner Asten said yesterday: "The accused man was not in the Tax Office

Commissioner Asten said yesterday: "The accused man was not in the Tax Office when the charge against him was made. He was dismissed over a year ago for inattention to daty. No one should allow himself to be blackmailed. The books are open for the inspection of all. If a person comes to the Tax Office and swears off the whole or a part of his tax on personal property the Commissioners are forced to accept his oath. In the case of tax on real estate the assessors are guided by the description of property and its location. In the case under discussion, Vanderpoel denies having made the offer, while Mr. Pike asserts that he did. It is a question of veracity. There are so many cases daily that the Commissioners are bound to take the oath of the person making the deposition, since January 8, when the tax books were opened, there have been more than 5,000 applications for reduction of taxation. Of coarse, if there are any suspicious circumstances, the Commissioners are bound to give the case a thorough investigation."

A PASTOR'S RESIGNATION ACCEPTED.

A meeting of the voting members of the Lee Avenue Congregational Church, Brooklyn, was held last night to take action relative to the resignation of the pastor, the Rev. Wilbur F. Crafts, which was unexpectedly offered on Sunday. The meeting was called at the request of Mr. Crafts. After a short discussion it was lecided to accept the resignation, and a committee was appointed to call a council, which will take the necessary steps to dissolve the pastoral relations between Mr. Craits and the church. A resolution was adopted expressing the caurch's "high appreciation of Mr. Crafts's ability as a preacher, his faithfulness as a pastor and ats untiring activity and zeal in the cause of our Divine Master." The resignation will not take effect until June

There is one good thing about this two-cent postage. The awarm of spring posts won't be compelled to face the dreadful fact that the stamp on the cavelope is worth three times as much as the poem inside. It will only be worth twice as much.—[Burlington Hawk-